**Filled with the spirit**

[**The battle between Good and evil**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8kpHK4YIwY4)

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

The enemy must not have had any idea what he was doing when he worked the people up to crucify Jesus. If he had known, he would never had pushed for Jesus’ crucifixion.

Jesus even said in John 12:24 Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.

Think about it. Before Jesus died on the cross, Jesus was just one man walking through a couple of small towns spreading the news about Gods mercy and grace and healing those around him. Most people thought he was just a lunatic.

We find in john 6:66 that many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him due to the things he was saying that they couldn’t understand (Eat my flesh & drink my blood …) But now after his crucifixion we see the holy spirit working to spread the word starting on the day of Pentecost.

Acts 2: 1–4 When the day of Pentecost came; they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them

Then Peter, filled with the holy spirit, gave a message to the crowd and those who accepted his message were baptized, and about **three thousand** were added to their number that day alone (Acts 40-41).

In 1 Day, 3000 disciples of Jesus’s were born spreading the gospel that has continued to this day creating millions of Christians. You can only imagine what the enemy was thinking on the day of Pentecost. (“What have I done”)

The apostle Paul tells us in Ephesians that we are to be filled with the Spirit.

Ephesians 5:17-20 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is. Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

How do we know when we are filled with the Spirit? Well first we can identify what the fruit of the spirit looks like:

[Galatians 5:22-23](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Galatians+5%3A22-23&version=ESV) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

If you are not acting in this manner you know you are not filled with the spirit. We also know that if we don’t have the Spirit, we do not belong to Christ

Romans 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

To be filled with the Spirit is to yield ourselves willingly to His calling, and the work he has prepared for us, as He prepares us for an eternity with Christ. In so doing, our union with Christ is strengthened, our fellowship with the Father is enhanced, and we increasingly bear the image of God Himself.

 2 Corinthians 3:18 tells us that as the Spirit works in us, we become more like Christ and reflect his glory

Matthew 10:19 But when they deliver you up, don't be anxious how or what you will say, for it will be given you in that hour what you will say. For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.

If you take a beach ball and throw it up in the air it will come right back down. If it is a windy day it may stay up for a little while and even travel a short distance but without some form of lift, the ball will always fall to the ground. If you were to fill the ball with helium, then it will begin to float on its own and floating will become the new normal. It will rise because of what it has inside.

Our walk with God can be just like that. We can try all kinds of things to please the Lord, but the moment you let up, the world will pull you right back down. It is hard work to keep breathing your own air into that ball, and it will become exhausting.

But if we are filled with the Holy Spirit, like the Apostles were, he will lift us up and we will soar without becoming exhausted trying to stay afloat on our own efforts.

So often we believe we need to do a bunch of great things to measure up. While God is telling us , 'I never told you to do all those things. Just be filled with the Spirit and you will do the important things I have called you to do.' When you are filled with His Spirit, you will please Him.

A good coach is almost transparent. They are always behind the scenes, pressing the team on to do greater things. They are proud of their team's accomplishments, but at the same time, always asking for more out of them.

The Holy Spirit works in the same way. He is transparent, but always there, urging us to do better, to try harder. He helps us know what to say in prayer or to someone who needs an encouraging word. the Holy Spirit will speak through you.

# He is always working to make us better, yet never taking credit and always pointing us to Jesus. Jesus said in John 14:26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

When you feel the presence of God, you are feeling the Holy Spirit who is here on the earth with us.

Many years ago, I was attending a Church called Willcrest Baptist and on one Sunday I was sitting in the pew listening to the Pastors Sermon. The Sermon was good but nothing out of the ordinary. Then all of the sudden this feeling, like a rush, came over me. I can’t describe it, but I had goosebumps all over me. Then immediately after the lady sitting next to me started yelling out “Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord.” She did not stop. The ushers quickly came down the aisle and helped the Lady out of the Church still yelling “Praise the Lord” “Praise the Lord”. The pastor continued with the Sermon as I sat there trying to understand what Just happened. I had never had anything like that happen before. About ten minutes Later the pastor closed and dismissed everyone. As I was walking out of the Church the lady was still sitting in a Chair in the lobby surrounded by people as she kept chanting “Praise the Lord”. Now I couldn’t tell you what happened that day, but I knew it was from God and I am almost positive it was the holy spirit moving through me. Every time I tell this story I get those same goosebumps and have had other times since when I knew I was in the presence of God that I would get that same feeling.

Once I had a Homeless Man come up to me, I thought he was going to ask me for a hand out but he said that God told him to Pray for me. The next thing he said caught my attention: he said “I don’t know why but I am covered with goosebumps” (it was a hot summer day). I knew then that God had sent him and that I should listen.

People receive the Holy Spirit in different ways and not everyone will be overcome by some magical feeling.

If we go back and look at Galatians 5:22-23 that the fruits of the Holy Spirit are: love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. It is the prevalence of these qualities in our day-to-day life that is the most telling sign of being full of the Holy Spirit. When you can find Peace in the midst of commotion or filled with love when surrounded by hatred then you know that the holy Spirit is working in you

The beauty is not in signs and feeling but in the conviction that came upon you to act like Christ and in His strength to live accordingly to His will. If you often find yourself filled with a heavenly joy that doesn’t align with your present circumstances, or you are sharing about Christ without shame but with confidence then consider yourself filled with the Spirit.

* **We should not be focused on doing great things for God but letting God do great things in and through us.**

In Closing we need to remember that the Holy Spirit is eternal, He was here at the very beginning, and He is still here today. Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit during your day. Pay attention to the things that you cannot see, and divine encounters will begin to take place. He has the answer to every question and every need. He is the Ultimate Coach.

Discussion:

John 3:8 The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So, it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”
What does this Mean? (some people have a feeling and others don’t)

Isaiah 61:1 The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound (Prophecies of Christ)

Who is this talking About?

More info

* <https://www.ligonier.org/learn/qas/there-difference-between-being-baptized-holy-spiri/>
* <https://www.cru.org/us/en/train-and-grow/transferable-concepts/be-filled-with-the-holy-spirit.7.html>